

REMARKS

Claims 14-20 and 24-26 are pending. Reconsideration is requested.

Applicants thank the Examiner for his courtesy and consideration in the telephonic examiner interview held on December 13, 2006 with the undersigned. During the interview, the Examiner indicated that he believed the expression "T" as found in claim 15, and "repeating twice in that order" found in claim 16 were indefinite. The undersigned agreed to communicate with Applicants regarding these issues. However, the issues were not able to be resolved prior to issuance of the outstanding office action.

Claims 15-18 and 25 have been rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for the reasons indicated in the previous paragraph. Although Applicants do not agree, in order to expedite prosecution, the claims have been amended to specify that "T" is a nucleobase (Claim 15) and that chiral monomeric units a, b, c, and d occur twice in that order (Claim 16 (iii), i.e. $R_1[\dots]_a[\dots]_b[\dots]_c[\dots]_d[\dots]_a[\dots]_b[\dots]_c[\dots]_d - R_2$). Support for the amendment to Claim 15 can be found at page 6 of the specification wherein it is stated that 'in all the monomer synthons.....the nucleobase is 'T''. Support for the amendment to claim 16 can be found for example at page 5 of the specification. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance, and Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 6/27/07

C. A. Hobbs

Ann S. Hobbs, Ph.D.
Registration No. 36,830
VENABLE
Post Office Box 34385
Washington, D.C. 20043-9998
Telephone: (202) 344-4800
Telefax: (202) 344-8300
ashobbs@venable.com